a lot of complications are created? Will the Government therefore see to it that they properly interpret the Government of India's order?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, the Government of Madras are not interested in giving a particular interpretation. But, sometimes possession would depend on ownership also. (Sri P. Ramamurthi: Not necessarily.) I agree, not necessarily. All those things will be taken into account when the looms are registered.

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: இந்தத் தகராருக்கு இடமில்லாமல் தரிகளை ரிஜிஸ்டர் செய்யும்பொழுது தரிகளில் வேலை செய்யக்கூடிய தொழிலாளர்களையும் சேர்த்து பதிவு செய்ய சர்க்கார் நடவடிக்கை எடுக்குமா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, the Government will examine that suggestion also.

Conversion of handlooms into powerlooms

* 69 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether this Government have received any communication from the Centre during June 1956 with regard to issuing of licences for new textile mills in the State; and

(*b*) whether there is any proposal to convert the handlooms into powerlooms in the State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) A scheme has been formulated by the Government of India for the installation of powerlooms by handloom weavers on a co-operative basis. The scheme is under the consideration of this Government.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY: On the floor of the House, the Hon. Minister had stated that he categorically opposed the introduction of powerlooms in the State. May I know how the State Government have now agreed to the Central Government's proposal to introduce powerlooms in the State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: The attitude of this Government with reference to the Government of India's proposal is that the specific proposal is not at all inconsistent with the policy which I have announced in this House sometime ago. I believe the hon. Leader of the Opposition has given notice of a resolution on this matter and I hope on the coming non-official day it may be taken up. Then, I think I could have sufficient time to explain better the implications behind the proposal of the Government of India.

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP: What is the attitude of this Government to the policy suggested by the Central Government?

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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, it is not a question of policy, it is a question of programme and this Government are not opposed to that programme.

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Suppose a powerloom is introduced about 20 handloom weavers will have no employment. They will be unemployed. Since the output from a powerloom is said to be 150 yards a day and that from an ordinary handloom is only 6 yards, 20 weavers will have to face unemployment. Considering this fact and the fact that the Handloom Board is also opposed to this, will the Government take steps in the matter so that the interests of the ordinary handloom weavers are not affected?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Whatever may be the programme undertaken by the Government of India, this Government have given, more than once, a categorical assurance that on account of this programme or any policy pursued by the Government, not one handloom weaver would be affected, not one pie of the wages of the handloom weaver would be affected. The Government undertakes to see that the handloom weaver is not affected in any way. I may also tell the hon. Member that according to the claims made by the leaders of the handloom weavers, there are 5·6 lakhs of handlooms in this State. According to the statistics available with regard to handlooms in the co-operative societies, there are 157,000 handlooms under the co-operative societies. So far as the programme relating to this State is concerned, the proposal is to introduce power for reasons which have been explained and which I will explain in detail at the proper time when there is sufficient time. The proposal is to have about 3,000 powerlooms introduced in this year, and it is proposed to introduce another 3,000 or so next year. Thus, it will be seen that there will be only 6,000 to 7,000 powerlooms out of the 5·6 lakhs of looms as claimed by the leaders of handloom weavers.

SRI K. R. NALLASIVAM : கைத்தறிக்குப் பதிலாக விசைத் தறியைப் 9-20 a.m.
புகுத்துவதன் மூலமாக வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் ஏற்படுமென்று நெசவாளர்கள் பீதி அடைந்திருக்கிறார்கள். அப்படி அவர்களுக்கு வேலையில்லாத் திண்டாட்டம் ஏற்படாமலிருப்பதற்கு சர்க்கார் உத்திரவாதம் கொடுக்கின்றார்களா ?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : சர்க்கார் உத்திரவாதம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொன்னேன். அதோடு கைத்தறியாளர்களிடம் நேரிடையாகச் சென்று அவர்களிடையே உள்ள பீதியைப் போக்குவதற்கு சர்க்கார் நடவடிக்கை எடுத்துக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள்.

Sale of handloom cloth in foreign countries

* 70 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to increase the sale of handloom cloth in foreign countries during the year 1956?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The export of handloom cloth for sale in foreign countries is not the primary concern